7/9/75

Dear Harold,

I just wanted to let you know that it will be about a week before I can check on Herman Kimsey. The Data-Bank is closed until later this week because the library is being remodeled and the computer terminal had to be temporarily disconnected. I did check the N.y. Times Obituary Index and he's not in it. However, The index only goes to 1968. The Data Bank starts with 68 so he should be in there.

The book I read was "The CIA and The Cult of Intelligence". While it does mention the existence of CIA backed publishers it doesn't name any, only a few of the books and movies the CIA paid for.

I started reading the Rockefeller Report yesterday. Maybe I'm just too cynical, but it seems to me that the guiding logic was to find several instances of "minor illegalities" to convince the public that it was a thorough investigation. It seemed to me that all of the commission's recommendations, aside from a few minor statutory changes, were nothing but beaurocratic reorganizations. They all looked impressive in the report, but have no effect on policy. The report recommended that the President "clarify" to the CIA director what the agency is and isn't allowed to do, as if that will accomplish anything. Considering that the CIA has knowingly broken the law in the past, doing nothing to change that policy and eliminate the clandestine mentality assures that the agency will find justifications to do the same in the future. When you have no real power to enforce existing statutes or to prosecute those who break existing laws, recommending new statutes or even changes in the old ones won't [redacted] give any more control over the agency than we already have, and that sure isn't much.

Take care. I'll send you the info. on Kimsey as soon as I can.

Best,
Karen